

enclosure characteristics. Unlike a trademark or trade name that identifies the source of the goods, the standard identifies the properties of the goods. Furthermore, changing an industry standard at the whim of the manufacturer defeats the attempt to standardize. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully assert that the limitation "VersaModular Eurocard standard" in Claim 5 is definite. Thus, withdrawal of the present rejection is requested.

Rejections Under 35 USC 102 and 103

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 102(b) as being anticipated by Bostrom et al. (US Patent 5,856,632). The rejection alleges that Bostrom teaches a filler panel body described as a card cage shielding contactor 40. Applicants respectfully assert that the filler panel body of the present invention and the card cage shielding contactor 140 are not equivalent. As shown in Figure 2 the contactor 40 of Bostrom has a plurality of apertures 52 through which circuit cards are inserted and removed. Accordingly, the contactor 40 of Bostrom does not provide EMI shielding and/or sealing. Instead, the contactor 40 ensures good electrical contact between circuit card brackets 14 and a chassis 20.

The rejection further alleges that Bostrom teaches a locating element described as a lead-in flap 82. Applicants respectfully assert that the lead-in flap 82 is not part of the circuit card bracket 14. Accordingly, Bostrom does not teach or suggest a filler panel body comprising a locating element. Furthermore as described at col. 5, lines 2-9, the lead-in flap 82 facilitates insertion of the tab 24 on the bracket 14 into a corresponding slot 26 on the computer chassis 20 by avoiding any hang-up of the tab 24 of the bracket 14 on the contactor 40. Accordingly Bostrom does not teach that the lead-in flaps 82 are on the filler panel body. Instead, the lead-in flaps 82 are on the separate assembly of the contactor 40. Bostrom also does not teach or suggest that the lead-in flaps 82 reduce

interference movement of the filler panel body when connected to a chassis. Instead, Bostrom teaches that the lead-in flaps 82 reduce hang-up of the bracket 14 on the contactor 40.

For the above-stated reasons, Bostrom clearly does not teach or suggest the present invention as claimed in Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 2-3 and 6-8 are also rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Bostrom. Claims 2-8 are dependent upon independent Claim 1 and incorporate all the limitations thereof. Thus, Claims 2-3 and 6-8 are allowable for the reasons advanced with respect to Claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4-5 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious in view of Bostrom. Claims 4-5 are dependent upon independent Claim 1 and incorporate all the limitations thereof. Thus, Claims 4-5 are allowable for the reasons advanced with respect to Claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

For all the reasons advanced above, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and that action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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